

PSEUDORABIES

PROGRAM PROFILE

Goal	To eradicate pseudorabies from domestic swine.
Enabling Legislation	21 USC 114 (Animal Industry Act).
Economic Significance	The pseudorabies virus causes severe economic losses in swine due to reproductive problems. In addition, pseudorabies costs pork producers over \$30 million annually. The swine industry, which has a production value of \$11 billion, generates \$66 billion of economic output and 764,000 jobs each year, providing \$23 billion in personal income.
Principal Approach And Methods Used to Achieve Goals	Survey, control, and eradication. Program methods include surveillance, herd monitoring, and herd cleanup. APHIS provides national program coordination, technical advice, regulatory assistance, recordkeeping, and public information. All 50 States, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands participate in this industry-initiated program. This eradication program has been an ideal model of producer and government teamwork. The Pseudorabies Program Standards were developed by APHIS, State officials, and industry leaders. Program participation requires the formation of a State pseudorabies committee and the incorporation of the standards into the State's regulations.
History	A control program began in 1978. In 1983-1984, pilot projects were initiated in Illinois, Iowa, Pennsylvania, North Carolina, and Wisconsin. The pilot project study was completed in FY 1987. A report of this study concluded that pseudorabies area control was feasible and could be accomplished by methods acceptable to swine producers. Industry developed and approved a model control/eradication plan to provide a framework for a nationwide eradication program, which would cost an estimated \$238.1 million over 10 years. The State-Federal-Industry eradication plan began in 1989 and the number of infected hogs has been decreasing since June 1990. The United States now has its lowest

level of infected herds since the pseudorabies eradication program began in 1988.

State and Local Cooperation The pseudorabies program is a cooperative effort directed by Federal, State, and industry officials. State legislatures have appropriated funds to support pseudorabies eradication. Producers have contributed through the purchase of vaccines and the testing of their herds.

Involvement of Other Agencies ARS and State universities.

RESOURCE DATA

	-----Obligations-----				
	<u>Direct</u>	<u>Reimbursement</u>	<u>User Fees</u>	<u>Staff-Years</u>	
FY 1996	4,322,699	--	--	40	
FY 1997	4,144,161	--	--	28	
FY 1998	4,369,344	--	--	35	
FY 1999	4,225,830	--	--	31	
FY 2000 (est.)	4,563,000	--	--	31	
FY 2001 (est.)	4,039,000	--	--	27	
					Contingency
	<u>APHIS</u>	<u>Coop</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>CCC</u>	<u>Fund</u>
Cum.	\$72,985,271	\$109,319,006	\$182,304,277	\$120,000,000	--

RECENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Eradication Progress As of November 1, 1999, 31 States and 2 Territories have progressed to Stage V (free) status in the national pseudorabies program and 7 States are in Stage IV. 9 States are in Stage III, 3 are in Stage II/III split status.

Recently, the number of pseudorabies-infected swine herds in Iowa has increased significantly, putting into question the goal of eliminating pseudorabies by the end of the year 2000. The increase in pseudorabies cases in Iowa is forcing hog producers to vaccinate tens of thousands of hogs and putting at risk a 10-year goal

of eradicating the disease. Iowa officials indicate that Iowa has 334 pseudorabies-infected herds: 72 breeding herds and 262 finishing herds. From mid-January to mid-February 2000, 76 newly infected herds have been discovered. The reasons for the increase may be the foggy, mild weather that Iowa has experienced this winter, and perhaps some carelessness in management practices.

New Standards

In FY 1999, APHIS developed new standards and/or resolutions that would accelerate the program to accomplish eradication by the end of the year 2000. New standards require mandatory testing and removal of positive breeding swine from the remaining quarantined herds. Some herds are not progressing and continue to maintain virus that is easily transmitted to other herds. If the virus sources can be removed in a short period of time, the spread to new herds will be eliminated. The test and removal was fully implemented by January 1, 2000.

Studies

APHIS continues to participate in various studies in Georgia, Florida, and Texas to determine the role feral swine play in domestic swine PRV eradication. The Agency continues to remain involved in risk analysis studies and negotiations to enhance international trade of live swine and/or pork products. APHIS provided regional training programs that focused on specific State needs and resulted in enhanced program activities. New biotechnology advancements are continually being monitored and employed when appropriate to improve the program. The Agency continued to work with allied organizations such as practicing veterinarians, National and State pork producer organizations, American Farm Bureau, State regulatory officials, swine slaughter and meat processing industries, universities, and cooperative extension services to discuss joint eradication projects. In addition, the Agency assisted the Livestock Conservation Institute in sponsoring an annual meeting and distributing a quarterly publication on the progress of pseudorabies eradication.

Accelerated Eradication Program

Recently, pseudorabies program progress has been threatened. As a result of depressed swine market prices, a number of producers stopped vaccinating their herds because of the added expense. The virus could rapidly spread to these unvaccinated swine herds. The reemergence of pseudorabies could jeopardize the country's position as the largest pork exporter in the world. To protect the pork industry, \$80 million was transferred from the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) to accelerate the eradication program by quickly removing all of the remaining infected swine from the population to prevent further spread of the disease. This request includes funds for indemnities, euthanasia, disposal of carcasses, cleanup, and surveillance. Of the \$80 million, close to \$62 million will be used to indemnify owners of pseudorabies infected herds. This value was established as a result of averaging the value of various classifications of hogs. Total costs may change if market values fluctuate or if some producers do not participate. An additional \$40 million was released from the CCC in early FY 2000. The accelerated program has enabled APHIS to buy herds with pseudorabies-infected swine at a fair market price and reduced the risk of the virus spreading. As a result, the Agency has successfully decreased the total number of quarantined herds by approximately 70 percent.

Final Plans for Completion

In FY 1999, a successful work conference was held in June for the States of Iowa, Indiana, and Minnesota to finalize plans for completing the eradication program. This was a follow up to work in 1998 when the 3-year goal was developed. The year has ended with the lowest quarantined premises at any time since the Pseudorabies Eradication Program was implemented in 1989. The Accelerated Pseudorabies Eradication Program (APEP) which was initiated in January of 1999 has released six hundred and sixty quarantines by depopulation. Another, 1056 quarantines were released by the regular program. At the end of FY 1999, there were still 430 premises quarantined. Herd testing in high risk areas is still necessary and has been made possible by the enhanced funding from APEP. The program goal is to completely eradicate pseudorabies from the United

States by the end of the year 2000. The identification of any remaining or newly pseudorabies infected herds will be a very important step in accomplishing our goal of total eradication of the disease. The recent increase in the number of pseudorabies-infected swine herds in Iowa has put to question the goal of eliminating pseudorabies by the end of the year 2000. APHIS programs are actively involved in combating this outbreak, through enhanced surveillance and compensating farmers for depopulating infected herds. Vaccination is effective in preventing pseudorabies, and large producers in Iowa are active now in vaccinating their herds.

APHIS will continue to identify any remaining infected herds through its monitoring program. To ensure adequate monitoring, APHIS requests \$1.1 million increase in the AHM&S programs to increase surveillance for herd testing in high-risk areas, increased market testing in high-risk areas, and increased major packer surveillance.